



Jennifer Strus, Assistant Secretary

Washington State Department of Social & Health Services
Children's Administration



Meet Jennifer Strus

Jennifer Strus is Children's Administration Assistant Secretary, a role to which she was appointed in February 2013.

Jennifer came to the Department of Social and Health Services after more than 14 years on staff with Washington State Senate Committee Services, most recently as Senior Staff Coordinator and Counsel for the Senate Human Services and Corrections Committee, where her duties included researching, analyzing and drafting legislation related to human services issues. Earlier, she served as Coordinator and Counsel for the Senate Children and Family Services Committee.

Jennifer was also Director of Legal affairs for the Office of Financial Management and served as Assistant Attorney General, providing legal representation to the Children's Administration at DSHS.

In the late '90s, Jennifer was Director of the Division of Program and Policy Development in the Children's Administration, where she oversaw development and implementation of statewide child welfare policy, and assumed the responsibilities of the Assistant Secretary in her absence. She also reviewed, monitored and approved settlements for all tort actions filed against the Children's Administration; represented the administration on various boards and committees and developed and directed the CA's legislative and policy priorities.

Jennifer earned a bachelor of science degree in Criminal Justice at Illinois State University and her law degree at Washburn University of Topeka School of Law in Topeka, Kansas.